

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to inhibit the adherence of a targeted colony-forming immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals produced by the method of:

- A. Inoculating female chickens, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with a particular target colony-forming immunogen;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the chickens of antibody to the target colony-forming immunogen, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;
- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the chickens;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells; and
- E. Drying said separated entire contents of said eggs, said dried entire contents of said eggs when administered to food animals with animal feed promoting the growth of the food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a ~~protein-wasting colony-forming~~ immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of the food animals by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the ~~protein-wasting colony-forming~~ immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the ~~protein-wasting colony-forming~~ immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins to inhibit the ability of the protein-wasting immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of the animals.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 1 wherein: said targeted colony-forming immunogen is from the class consisting of *P. anaerobius*, *C. sticklandii* and *C. aminophilium*.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to a living being to inhibit the adherence of a colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract of the living being, said colony-forming immunogen is from the class consisting of *E. coli*, *Listeria*, *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* produced by the method of:

- A. Inoculating female birds in or about to reach their egg laying age with the colony-forming immunogen;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to the colony-forming immunogen, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;
- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells; and
- E. Drying said separated entire contents of said eggs, said dried entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of the colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

6. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to inhibit the adherence of a targeted colony-forming immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals produced by the method of:

- A. Inoculating female chickens, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with a particular target colony-forming immunogen;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the chickens of antibody to the target colony-forming immunogen, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the chickens;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;
- E. Providing a dry feed carrier material; and
- F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

7. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 6 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

8-11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to a living being to inhibit the adherence of a colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract of the being produced by the method of:

- A. Inoculating female birds in or about to reach their egg laying age with the colony-forming immunogen;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to the colony-forming immunogen, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;
- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;
- E. Providing a dry food carrier material;

F. Coating said dry food carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins, said colony-forming immunogens are from the class consisting of *E. coli*, *Listeria*, *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*.

13. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is P antigen from *P. anaerobius* produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with P antigen from *P. anaerobius*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to P antigen from *P. anaerobius*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells; and

E. Drying said entire contents of said eggs, said dried entire contents of said eggs when administered to food animals with animal feed promoting the growth of the food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of the food animals by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the protein-wasting immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the protein-wasting immunogen being

assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins to inhibit the ability of the protein-wasting immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of the animals.

14. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 13 wherein: the drying of the separated entire contents of said eggs is achieved by coating dry feed carrier material with the entire contents of said eggs.

15. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 14 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

16. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CS antigen from *C. sticklandii* produced by the method of:

- A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CS antigen from *C. sticklandii*;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to CS antigen from *C. sticklandii*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;
- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells; and
- E. Drying said entire contents of said eggs, said dried entire contents of said eggs when administered to food animals with animal feed promoting the growth of the food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the

rumen or intestinal tracts of the food animals by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the protein-wasting immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the protein-wasting immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins to inhibit the ability of the protein-wasting immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of the animals.

17. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 16 wherein: the drying of the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs is achieved by coating dry feed carrier material with the entire contents of said eggs.

18. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 17 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

19. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CA antigen from *C. aminophilium* produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CA antigen from *C. aminophilium*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to CA antigen from *C. aminophilium*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells; and

E. Drying said entire contents of said eggs.

20. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 19 wherein: the drying of the separated entire contents of said eggs is achieved by coating dry feed carrier material with the entire contents of said eggs.

21. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 20 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

22. (Currently Amended) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to ~~substantially prevent~~ inhibit the adherence of targeted colony-forming immunogens in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with the particular target colony-forming immunogen;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird of antibody to the targeted immunogen, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said eggs from the shells;

E. Providing a dry feed carrier material; and

F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the entire contents of said eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

23. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 22 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

24. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is P antigen from *P. anaerobius* produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with P antigen with *P. anaerobius*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production of the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to P antigen from *P. anaerobius*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;

E. Providing a dry feed carrier material; and

F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

25. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 24 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

26. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen of intestinal tracts of said food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CS antigen from *C. sticklandii* produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CS antigen from *C. sticklandii*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to CS antigen from *C. sticklandii*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;

E. Providing a dry feed carrier material; and

F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

27. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 26 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

28. (Previously Presented) A microbial adherence inhibitor for promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CA antigen from *C. aminophilium* produced by the method of:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CA antigen from *C. aminophilium*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the bird and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to CA antigen from *C. aminophilium*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;

E. Providing a dry feed carrier material; and

F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs, said dry food carrier material coated with the entire contents of said eggs when administered to the living being inhibiting the adherence of colony-forming immunogen in the digestive tract by binding the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen, said binding of the IgY immunoglobulins to the colony-forming immunogen being assisted by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins.

29. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor according to Claim 28 wherein: the dry feed carrier material is from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.